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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/671,981	09/25/2003	Phuc Ky Do	RPS920030089US1/2859P	8869
47052 7590 06/24/2008 SAWYER LAW GROUP LLP PO BOX 51418 PALO ALTO, CA 94303				
EXAMINER				
PARK, ILWOO				
ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER		
2182				
NOTIFICATION DATE		DELIVERY MODE		
06/24/2008		ELECTRONIC		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

patent@sawyerlawgroup.com
nikia@sawyerlawgroup.com

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/671,981

Applicant(s)

DO ET AL.

Examiner

ILWOO PARK

Art Unit

2182

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 13 May 2008.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,3,4 and 17 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,3,4 and 17 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-8508)
- Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____

- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
- Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 5/13/2008 has been entered.
2. Claims 5-16 are canceled and claim 17 is added in response to the last office action. Claims 1, 3, 4, and 17 are presented for examination. Lada et al were cited in the previous office action.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

4. Claims 1, 3, 4, and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Lada et al. [US 7,269,746 B1].

As for claim 1, Lada et al teach a method for automatically determining a configuration of an I/O connector panel [option pack 12a in fig. 3] coupled to a system [main unit 10a in fig. 2], the method comprising:

providing information [e.g., "information detailing the hardware, drivers, and software available on the option pack" in col. 5, lines 45-50] about the capabilities of the I/O connector panel to a memory [EEPROM 104 in fig. 3] within the I/O connector panel, prior to connecting one or more peripherals [PCMCIA/CF devices in col. 21, lines 1-20] to the I/O connector panel, wherein the I/O connector panel provides a connection point [CF/PCMCIA SLOT SOCKETs 94, 96 in fig. 3] between I/O devices [e.g., PCMCIA/CF devices, I/O or DSP device 88, etc.] and the system;

examining [col. 16, lines 10-14] the information in the memory; and

downloading [col. 16, lines 14-16] at least one driver to the system coupled to the I/O connector panel based upon the examined information.

5. As for claim 3, Lada et al teach the downloading step is provided by software that is independent of the type of I/O connector panel ["device manager" in col. 16, lines 14-16].

6. As for claim 4, Lada et al teach the system includes a core PC function block that is configured independently of the I/O connector panel [e.g., handheld computers or PDAs in col. 1, lines 24-26; processor 60 in fig.2].

7. As for claim 17, Lada et al teach the information comprises attributes of a type of the connector panel [e.g., "ID INFORMATION" of TABLE 8 in col. 16], each connector installed on the I/O connector panel [e.g., "slot configuration" of TABLE 11 in col.19], and attributes of connector logic that links the I/O connector panel to the system [e.g., "OEM Area" in col. 23, lines 13-17].

Conclusion

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ilwoo Park whose telephone number is (571) 272-4155. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 9:00 AM to 5:30 PM. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Tariq Hafiz can be reached on (571) 272-6729. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-8300. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

/Ilwoo Park/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2182
June 12, 2008